

and a book of service according to the Church of England, especially prepared for the Cunard ships. The ship has on board a most excellent orchestra which was present and gave us some of as sweet music as I ever heard. After the musical prelude two young officers took charge of the service. One of them is third officer of the ship. That is he is in line of promotion to the captaincy and is now just third from captain. The other was assistant purser. The purser is the business head of the ship, who attends to all money matters and who has to listen to all our complaints and troubles. The purser is laid up sick in the Presbyterian hospital in New York, so this young assistant is acting as purser. These two young fellows had charge of the whole service. They had never conducted a service before, but they did it well. There was a note of reverence about them that pleased me greatly.

The first hymn was, "The Church's One Foundation." The seamen entered fervently into the singing. Then we read in concert the first five Psalms and chanted the ninety-fifth. Afterwards came "The Te Deum." The prayers were read in a very reverent and natural way. One of them I noted was prepared by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, and was a beautiful prayer for seamen. The second hymn was, "I heard the voice of Jesus say." Then we had a lesson from the Old Testament and another from the New. The closing hymn was, "Eternal Father, strong to save," a very sweet hymn for seamen. I had not heard it before. We did not omit the collection. About forty dollars were contributed to aid infirm seamen and widows and orphans of those who have died. When we learn what small wages these men receive we can see the importance of such a collection.

We can also see why we are expected to give all those who wait on us rather large fees. They tell me that I will be worse than nobody if I fail to tip my dining-room waiter to the extent of two dollars and a half and my bed room attendant the same amount, and others accordingly, before I get off the boat. I find that the wages of these men, excepting officers, of course, average about fifteen or eighteen dollars a month. Many of them are married and have homes to maintain and children to support. They find it impossible to do it on fifteen dollars a month even in England, where living is much cheaper than it is in America. Yet the company charges enormous rates and I am told that it is making money. I rejoice that they provide a Christian service for their men on the Sabbath, but I believe that they also ought to pay them Christian wages during the week. I believe too that this last remark is applicable to many who employ labor on the land, and in the land of America at that.

But I have wandered somewhat from my subject. The whole service lasted an hour and left a very happy impression on all who were present. It gave direction to my thoughts for the remaining hours of the day and made the Sabbath a very sweet day for me.

There were no evening services. During the afternoon and evening nearly everybody sat on deck and read. I would not like to be responsible for what they read—newspapers, magazines and current fiction of every conceivable kind were in evidence. I saw

one book with this title, "The Gold Dog," and there were many others like unto it. It is wonderful and appalling too to see what trash a great many people, and among them many professing Christians, read on the Sabbath day. Much of it is not fit to read on any day. I saw one copy of the Christian Herald, and four copies of the Bible. I have no doubt there were others who read their Bibles in their rooms, in the spirit of the sixth chapter of Matthew. There are a good many people who are a little timid about flaunting their Bibles in the faces of other people. I have met some very devoted Christians aboard.

This gives some idea of a Sabbath at sea on an English vessel. I have no doubt that it is different on other lines where it is optional whether they have any Christian service. The whole experience was a revelation to me, and a very happy revelation at that. The closing hour of the day was a very precious one to me. I have on my journey a little Bible which has a history and around which cluster some hallowed memories. When Dr. E. H. Barnett, pastor of the First Church of Atlanta, started on his journey to Palestine, twenty years ago, one of the deacons of the Church presented him with a little Bible. He carried it with him all through Egypt and Palestine and cherished it to the end of his days. At his death it passed back into the hands of the deacon. The other day when I was starting on my journeys this same deacon placed this same little Bible in my hands. I prize it more highly than I can tell. On Sunday afternoon I went away up on the hurricane deck alone and read from this little Bible all those passages which tell of storms on the sea and how the Savior calmed them. It was a sacramental service for me, one which I shall not forget soon. This same Savior sets the bounds of the sea today, and speaks the word that calms the troubled seas. More blessed still he speaks that same word to tens of thousands of troubled hearts and gives to them a peace which the world can not give, that perfect peace of God which passeth all understanding.

Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away,
In Jesus keeping we are safe, and they.

Walter L. Lingle.

On "The Caronia,"

THE PROGRESS OF METHODISM.

On July first, the national holiday of Canada, a monument was unveiled on the bank of the St. Lawrence in memory of Barbara Heck, the accredited founder of American Methodism. It was erected from gifts contributed by the Methodists of the entire North American continent. An address was delivered on the occasion by Rev. Dr. Couch, of New York, in which he said of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States: "It has today in round numbers, 20,000 ministers, 15,000 local preachers, 3,400,000 members, 40,000 churches, 13,000 parsonages, and owns church and parsonage property to the value of \$196,000,000, and school property valued at \$25,000,000. To the number of members given above must be added the 1,800,000 of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, also the Methodist Church of Canada, while the various mission fields throughout the world in which this denomination works, are an asset of no mean proportions."